

U.S. Department of Justice
United States Attorney
Western District of New York

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PRESS RELEASE

April 13, 2004

RE: UNITED STATES v. WAYNE EUGENE SIVERT

United States Attorney Michael A. Battle announced today that Wayne Eugene Sivert, 69, of Cleveland, Ohio, pled guilty before United States District Court Judge William M. Skretny, to a felony charge of bank robbery. The maximum penalty is 20 years imprisonment and fine of \$250,000.00.

Assistant U.S. Attorney Trini E. Ross, stated that the defendant admitted robbing the HSBC Bank located at 1675 Walden Avenue, Cheektowaga, New York, on March 15, 2004. The defendant admitted that in robbing the bank he gave the bank manager a demand note which, in part, stated that he had a bomb. The defendant then showed the manager a device that appeared to be a bomb. The note further stated that unless the manager got the vault teller, he would blow the building down and that he was willing to die. The manager complied with the demand and took the defendant to the bank's vault where the defendant took approximately \$100,000.00.

The plea was the culmination of an investigation on the part of the Federal Bureau of Investigation under the direction of Special Agent in Charge Peter Ahearn and the Cheektowaga Police Department, under the direction of Police Chief Christine Ziemba.

Sentencing is scheduled for August 29, 2004, before Judge Skretny.

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